

## MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE

**James J. McClure**, Chairman

Once again Dalton had a very successful program in observance of Memorial Day. All veteran's graves were decorated with American flags, thanks to the efforts of Dalton's Troop #4 Boy Scouts of America under the direction of Memorial Day Committeeman John Ellis, and Scout Master Steve Ivanowski, teacher Beverly Favreau with her Grade 3 students at Craneville School.

Participants in the traditional parade were wreath bearers from Troop #475 Girl Scouts, American Legion Post 155 Color Guard, Veterans of Foreign Wars Color Guard Post 9566, Dalton Select Board, Dalton Fire Department, Dalton Police Department, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, Cub Scouts and the Berkshire County Sheriffs Association.

Two Dalton Servicemen recently returned from Iraq were of special interest. Lieutenant Colonel David Ellis and Chief Warrant Officer James Slater were warmly received by the crowd along the parade route.

After the parade the customary Memorial Day services were held at the Mound of Unknown Dead in the Main Street Cemetery. The speaker of the day was James Brehio, Department Vice Commander of The Massachusetts Department of the American Legion. Others who participated in the program included Master of Ceremonies John Cooney, and speakers Jessie Powers and James Culliton of Wahconah Regional High School, Representative Shaun Kelly, John Ellis, and Lt. Colonel David Ellis.

The Wahconah orchestra played the "Star Spangled Banner" and "America." The American Legion firing squad fired a three shot salute to the dead followed by "Taps and Echo" played by Joseph Korpiewski of the Wahconah Regional High School Orchestra.

The Invocation and Benediction were by Lt. Col. Ellis, who is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ in Quakerstown, Pennsylvania.

Special thanks are extended to all the Dalton residents and friends who honored us with their presence at the Memorial Day services. Special thanks are also extended to Thomas Callahan, Principal of Wahconah Regional High who coordinated all efforts with the school, and lastly gratitude to all members of the Memorial Day Committee.